MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
HELD IN WASHINGTON, D. C., MAY 1, 1936

The twelfth meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts during the fiscal year 1936 was held in its office in the Navy Department Building on May 1, 1936. The following members were present:

Mr. Moore, Chairman,
Mr. Clarke,
Mr. Howells,
Mr. Savage,
Mr. Borie,
Mr. Shepley,
also H. P. Caemmerer,

Executive Secretary and Administrative Officer.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a. m.

1. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING: The Minutes of the Meeting held March 27, 1936, were approved.

2. MINUTE ON THE DEATH OF MR. COOLIDGE: The Commission adopted the following minute as an expression of their sorrow over the death of Mr. Coolidge and in appreciation of his service on the Commission:

> Charles Allerton Coolidge, appointed a member of the Commission of Fine Arts by President Roosevelt on December 14, 1933, brought to the work of the Commission the widest knowledge of the practice of architecture in its varied uses and under the most diversified conditions. In Massachusetts and California; in Illinois and Ohio he built monumental buildings which have taken a permanent place in the service of the arts and of education.
>
> He enjoyed his membership on the Commission, because of the variety of projects presented by the younger men--architects, painters, sculptors and landscape architects--with whom he was able to discuss their work with understanding of their aims and sympathy with the limitations under which they necessarily labored. He was in full accord with the large plans for the continuous, harmonious development of Washington as the national capital. He was wise in the adaptation of those plans to such specific problems as were involved, for example, in the development of Union Square.
>
> He took pleasure in companionship with the members of the Commission and promoted the good fellowship characteristic thereof. His sudden death on April 1, 1936, brought to each of his associates a poignant realization of their loss of a fellow member respected and beloved.

The Commission directed the secretary to transmit a copy of the minute to the family of Mr. Coolidge. (EXhibit A) Under date of April 17, 1936, the following letter was received from Mrs. Rentschler:

Locust Valley, New York.
Friday.

Dear Mr. Caemmerer:

As Secretary of the Commission of Fine Arts, will you please express to each and every member of the Commission the sincerest thanks of my brother, sisters and myself for the beautiful wreath of lilies which you all sent for the funeral of my father Charles Coolidge.

During the last few weeks, he spoke many times of his work with the Commission. It afforded him much satisfaction as well as the pleasure of the friendships he formed through the work.

We all appreciate your kind thought of us at this time and send our warm appreciation and thanks.

Very sincerely yours,
(Signed) Mary Coolidge Rentschler.

3. ELECTION OF A VICE CHAIRMAN: The Commission elected Mr. Gilmore D. Clarke, Vice Chairman of the Commission.

4. GENERAL ARTEMAS WARD STATUE; MODEL OF PEDESTAL: A model nine inches high on the scale of one inch to the foot was received from Mr. Leonard Crunelle, sculptor, for the General Artemas Ward statue. The architect members of the Commission gave particular attention to the model of the pedestal and thought it satisfactory. The Commission thereupon approved the model.

Consideration was then given to the color of the stone to be used for the pedestal. Mr. Borie said that white stone should not be used if the statue is to be of bronze as bronze always stains and streaks the stone below. He suggested that dark polished granite, such as Stony Creek, be used. Mr. Moore modified this by suggesting honed granite, to which Mr.

Borie agreed. The Commission felt that as the statue is to be of bronze, a dark, honed granite should be used so that when the bronze weathers, the stone will be almost as dark as the bronze, thus making the monument more of a unit. A dark green granite was also thought suitable.

In regard to the placing of the statue in the circle, Mr. Clarke said the curb should be lower than the base of the pedestal, that is, that the pedestal should be placed on a very low mound. There was some question as to whether the pedestal was high enough but it was concluded that it is all right for this particularly high location.

(On Saturday morning, May 2, photographs were received from Mr. Crunelle of his finally completed full sized model for the statue of General Artemas Ward. A print of this was sent to each of the members of the Commission for criticism. The model was approved and a report was sent to Mr. Crunelle accordingly. (Exhibit B) Mr. Crunelle was asked about a landscape plan and the inscription for the pedestal.

5. MODEL FOR STATUE FOR GREAT ENTRANCE TO ARLINGTON: Mr. A. A. Weinman submitted a photograph of his revised design for the statue for the Great Entrance to Arlington. Mr. Lawrie had also received a photograph of it and on April 8, 1936, sent the following letter regarding it:

April 8, 1936.

Dear Mr. Moore:

I am enclosing a photograph of Weinman's revised Arlington sketch. He has removed the small flying figure that was behind the main figure, and in its place has put the hero's shield. I think the scheme is much improved by these simplifications, and believe that Weinman will make a magnificent work of it.

I told Mr. Weinman that I would call your attention to the eagle heads projecting from the drum over the basin. They are not

spouts but will appear to be, and I question whether the eagle heads may be so used. I think that the consoles, in the architecture below the figure, do not help the composition.

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) Leo Lawrie.

Mr. Moore called attention to a letter he had sent to the President requesting funds for statuary for the Arlington Memorial Bridge and a reply was received from President Roosevelt. (Exhibit C)

The Commission after consideration approved the model and a report was sent to the National Park Service. (Exhibit C-1)

6. JUSSERAND MEMORIAL: The Commission considered a revised design for a memorial bench, designed by Mr.Joseph Freedlander, architect, of New York City, to be erected in Rock Creek Park on a hillside not far from Pierce Mill. The Commission inspected the design. Mr. Clarke suggested that where there is no architecture as at this location in Rock Creek Park, this memorial should be quite simple. Mr. Borie on inspecting the design said that unless the corners (ends of the bench) are well planted they will not look very well. Mr. Howells also noted that the design calls for planting. Mr. Clarke felt that if the memorial is well planted this will make it more of a spot than ever among the natural growth. He also thought that if the bench were made a little longer and turned into an ellipse it would be more pleasing. Mr. Shepley felt that it was rather "bunched up". Mr. Borie remarked that very likely it could be spread out, using the same cubic feet of granite. Mr. Howells said that the bench would look as well without the arms, such as the Greek chairs; he suggested that the Commission approve this design with the reservation that something much shallower and longer and more Grecian in design would be preferable. A report was sent to Mr. Paris. (Exhibit D)

The Commission recommended Stony Creek granite for the bench.

(Mr. Paris informed the Commission that the Stony Creek granite people reported to him that it would be impossible to get a large enough block for the bench and therefore, his committee had selected Milford pink granite. Mr. Moore approved this.)

7. FRANKLIN K. LANE MEMORIAL: The following draft of a bill for the Franklin K. Lane memorial was received from the National Park Service:

A Bill

To authorize the erection of a memorial to the late Franklin Knight Lane on the public grounds of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Interior be, and he is hereby, authorized to grant permission for the erection of a memorial flagstaff with appropriate landscape setting at a suitable location on Hains Point, East Potomac Park, District of Columbia, as a memorial to Franklin Knight Lane, Secretary of the Interior from 1913 to 1920, author of "Makers of the Flag", in recognition of his outstanding public service: Provided, That the design and setting of said memorial flagstaff shall be subject to the approval of the Commission of Fine Arts; And Provided Further, That the work shall be done under the direction of the National Park Service, and that the United States shall be put to no expense in the erection of said memorial; And Provided Further, That such permission shall not be granted unless and until the funds referred to in Sec. 2 hereof shall have been made available for the erection of said memorial.

Sec. 2. The National Park Trust Fund Board is hereby authorized to accept and administer under the provisions of the Act of July 10, 1935 (49 Stat. 477), a fund, consisting of securities and cash of the value of approximately one hundred thousand dollars, the income from said fund to be disbursed to the widow of said Franklin Knight Lane during her lifetime, and the principal to be used, upon her death, for the erection of said memorial.

Mr. Moore said the trustees of the fund are former President Hoover, President Roosevelt and Adolph Miller and they want to be rid of the responsibility. Further that Hains Point offers an opportunity similar to that of the Water Gate and whatever is designed in the way of a flag-

staff should be designed with that ideal in view. The Commission believed that this location would be suitable for a flagstaff. Mr. Moore said he had difficulty with Mr. Pope to get him to keep all architecture away from the flagpole and that he felt the point should be kept open for this is the finest view in Washington as the river is so wide here it gives the effect to the observer of looking towards the sea.

With Mr. Finnan, Superintendent of the National Capital Parks, present the Commission discussed the matter of the flagpole. It was stated the Commission selected the design which suggested a site a short distance from the point. Mr. Finnan said that his office feeling that the Navy Department might object to a flagpole so close to their flying field, inquired and found that the Navy Department would consider a flagpole at this point quite objectionable, and that if such a pole is placed there it should not be more than 90 feet high (the proposed flagpole is 150 feet high). Mr. Finnan also objected to that part of the bill stating that the flagpole will be erected at Hains Point because of the fact that the foundations for it might require an expenditure of about $50,000 to make the memorial safe, which might cause more of an expense to the memorial committee than they could pay. The Commission revised the draft of the bill and sent it to the National Park Service. (Exhibit E)

8. JEANNE D'ARC STATUE: Mr. Horace Peaslee, architect of Meridian Hill Park, submitted a sketch suggesting a relocation of the Jeanne d'Arc Statue, either at a point near the balustrade on the grand terrace so that the statue could be seen from the lower garden or at the north end of the park. Mr. Peaslee said Mr. Vitale approved the location at the north end of the

park and that this would be an open space free from conflict with tree trunks; further that the repairing of the setting of the statue is going to take quite a bit of money so it was thought the whole job might be done at one time and incidentally put the statue in a better location. It was noted that even if the pedestal were raised the statue would still conflict with the tree trunks. The Sixteenth Street site, shown by Mr. Peaslee in his sketch, Mr. Clarke thought quite handsome. Mr. Moore said that in Europe the statue is just a little point in a great big plaza surrounded by large buildings. It was pointed out that the head of the statue in Meridian Hill Park is cut off when one looks at it from the garden below, but Mr. Moore said that when the trees are grown, this view would be shut off.

The Commission visited the park in the afternoon and after inspecting the statue decided that they would leave the question of raising or relocating it with Mr. Moore. Whether the statue is moved or not, it is to be repaired by placing iron rods in the legs of the horse to keep the statue from tipping over, which it now threatens to do.

9. LABORATORY, BUREAU OF PUBLIC ROADS: The Commission inspected designs submitted by Mr. Thomas H. MacDonald, Chief of the Bureau of Public Roads, for a group of laboratory buildings to be erected at the site of the home of John Parke Custis about halfway between Washington and Alexandria on the Mt. Vernon Highway. The buildings were designed in the Georgian type of architecture by Mr. Victor Mindeleff, architect, of Washington. Mr. MacDonald said the Bureau of Public Roads has purchased some 60 acres of land and proposes to start building several of the structures at once. The Commission inspected the designs and were very much pleased with the lay-out.

Mr. Clarke inspected the plot plan showing the proposed locations of the buildings and said the landscape architect, Mr. Simonson of the Bureau of Public Roads, has made a good design of the landscape. Mr. Clarke advised that a connection be made with the Alexandria Pike so as to keep trucks from the Mt. Vernon Highway and this matter has been brought to the attention of the Bureau of Public Roads. The Commission approved the designs. (Exhibit F)

10. WAREHOUSE, RESERVATION D: The Secretary again brought to the attention of the Commission a design submitted by Mr. Clarence L. Harding for a warehouse on reservation D south of the Mall adjacent to the Smithsonian Institution; he said that the owner of the property wants to erect a warehouse on it at once although the Department of Justice has instituted condemnation proceedings to buy reservation D. He also reported that Reservation D is being considered for a General Accounting Office building site, which scheme will provide for laying out Independence Avenue through the reservation.

The Commission decided that the warehouse type of building as proposed is inappropriate for this location along the Mall and disapproved the design.

11. APEX BUILDING: Mr. Louis Simon, Supervising Architect, submitted revised designs for the Apex Building at the end of the Triangle on Pennsylvania Avenue. Mr. Frost of Bennett, Parsons and Frost of Chicago, architects, who made the original plans, was also present. Mr. Simon said the design has been restudied by his office and simplified. Also the interior has been restudied with a view to providing space for the Federal Trade Commission. Mr. Clarke felt that the space remaining in the Triangle is too small for the proposed Apex Building and was of the opinion that it

should not be built. Mr. Borie informed Mr. Clarke that going east on Pennsylvania Avenue the Apex Building would relieve the dead line which the Archives Building now makes and this explanation was satisfactory to Mr. Clarke. The Archives Building was not designed for an end to the triangle, and Mr. Moore said Mr. Pope feels quite strongly that there should be an Apex Building. Mr. Moore said the Commission is on record as approving a building for the completion of the group, but has never been satisfied with the building as designed. Mr. Moore asked if the design had been much modified from the original and Mr. Borie said the firm had accomplished all the things that had been asked. The architect members of the Commission inspected the design and upon their recommendation the Commission approved it. A report was sent to Mr. Simon accordingly. (Exhibit G)

12. PAN AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION BUILDING: The Secretary brought to the attention of the Commission copies of Bill H. R. 12472 (Exhibit H) on which Hon. Fritz G. Lanham, Chairman of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds of the House of Representatives, wishes advice. The bill proposes to eliminate the Pan American Administration Building from the triangle at 19th Street and Constitution Avenue and to arrange the entire area between 18th and 19th Streets and from Constitution Avenue north to C Street, as a result of which 18th Street would be closed at C Street and the Pan American Administration Building placed adjacent to the Pan American grounds.

The Commission called attention to the action taken by both the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Commission of Fine Arts at a joint meeting held January 31, 1936, at which time a plan was approved by both Commissions placing the Pan American Administration Building on the triangle designated by Congress at 19th and Constitution Avenue.

The Secretary submitted two perspectives received from Dr. Cret, showing the Pan American Administration Building in relation to the new Interior Department Building. The Commission felt that the perspectives showed that the view of the new Interior Department Building would not be materially obscured by placing the Pan American Administration Building on the triangle as proposed.

The Commission decided to give the matter further consideration before submitting a report.

13. PLAN FOR WALKS WEST OF THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT GROUNDS: The National Park Service through Mr. Malcolm Kirkpatrick, landscape architect, submitted a plan for a walk west of the Monument Grounds to take the place of the old road at the intersection of 16th Street. Mr. Clarke inspected the plan and upon his recommendation the Commission approved it.

14. LIGHT STANDARDS FOR THE MALL. Mr. C. Marshall Finnan submitted a photograph of the light standards which are now being installed on the Mall. Mr. Borie approved the design, but said he would like to see it all in cast iron painted or a white non-corrosive metal as zinc, aluminum or tin sprayed on iron. Mr. Finnan said this unit of light costs $273 apiece but if more are bought the price will be less. Mr. Borie was informed that Captain Goslin of the General Electric Company has been working on the light standard for some time and had worked this out in conjunction with the Commission. The poles are of steel with aluminum paint. In reply to Mr. Borie's objection to the type of light given out by these standards, Mr. Finnan said by means of reflectors the light is kept down so that from a distance the lights look rather dim, but the lighting near the posts is very good. His office tried to subordinate the Mall lighting to that of the Monument and the Capitol.

The Commission were pleased with the design of the standard, an example of which they inspected at Union Square in the afternoon. Mr. Borie, however, felt that it was somewhat too high (the height is 24 feet) and believed it would be better to use a standard sufficiently low to come under the trees as in the Paris parks and also better to use more standards.

15. PLAN FOR RAWLINS SQUARE: Mr. Kirkpatrick submitted a plan for Rawlins Square at the intersection of New York Avenue and E Street, N. W., between the Interior Department Buildings. It was reported that tunnels will be built under the park to connect the two buildings. Mr. Clarke inspected the plan and approved it with the criticism that steps proposed at the center of the square be taken out.

16. GEORGE WASHINGTON MEMORIAL PARKWAY PLAN: Mr. Kirkpatrick submitted a design for the bridge to connect with the George Washington Memorial Parkway from the north end of Columbia Island. The Commission approved the design subject to the submission of a design showing the right scale in the granite.

17. PAINTINGS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE BUILDING: Under date of April 30, 1936, a letter was received from Mr. Olin Dows (Exhibit I) with which he submitted a sketch and model by Louis Bouche for the painting to go on either side of the entrance to the Attorney General's office. Mr. Borie explained the location of this mural. Mr. Moore read from the Attorney General's letter the changes suggested by him, as follows:

(1) Elimination of the red, white, and blue color scheme and the drapes.

(2) Substitution of some more peaceful group for the left hand group portraying the "Arrest".

(3) Elimination of the two medallions underneath the wings of the eagle.

(4) Substitution of the Department of Justice eagle for the eagle now shown.

Mr. Borie said he could not see why the Attorney General should object to the use of the red and blue as he felt a bit of color would be very good at the end of the rather dark corridor where the murals are to be placed. Mr. Howells agreed with him on this point. Mr. Borie felt that a temporary officer should not have the final say in something that is going to be permanent. Mr. Shepley remarked about the group on the left to the effect that it looked like a custom house scene. Mr. Borie said this could be changed but that he has a great deal of confidence in Mr. Bouche. The Attorney General's objection to the eagle the Commission considered well taken. Mr. Borie suggested approving the work in principle leaving the details for later consideration. He pointed out that Mr. Savage had seen the first sketches. The Commission concurred in the suggestions made by Mr. Dows's office and approved the sketch in principle but directed that the painting be submitted to Mr. Savage for criticism as to details and this was done.

18. PAINTINGS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE BUILDING: The following letter was received from Mr. Ed Rowan under date of May 1, 1936, with which he submitted a revised sketch from Leon Kroll for the painting, "Defeat of Justice", to go in the Attorney General's office:

May 1, 1936.

Mr. Charles Moore, Chairman
The Commission of Fine Arts
New Navy Department Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Moore:

I am submitting herewith for the comment and advice of the Commission of Fine Arts a design "The Defeat of Justice" created by Mr. Leon Kroll.

This is the second of two panels which Mr. Kroll is creating for the Attorney General's Reception Room, Fifth Floor, Department of Justice Building, and represents his interpretation of the subject matter assigned him, "The Defeat of Justice".

Mr. Kroll's other panel, "The Victory of Justice" was approved by the Commission of Fine Arts, and we were notified to this effect in a letter dated February 19, 1936.

Thanking you and the members of The Commission for your courtesy, I am,

Very truly yours,
(Signed) Ed Rowan,
Superintendent,
Section of Painting & Sculpture

The Commission approved the scheme in principle but decided that some of the figures were too violent and should be studied further. Also it was decided that the painting be submitted to Mr. Savage for advice and this was done.

19. PAINTINGS FOR FEDERAL WAREHOUSE: Under date of April 30, 1936, a letter was received from Mr. Olin Dows submitting sketches by Mr. Harold Weston for the entrance lobby of the Procurement Division in the Federal Warehouse (Exhibit J). The Commission interposed no objection to the placing of these paintings in the Warehouse but decided that they should be sent to Mr. Savage for advice, and this was done.

20. CINCINNATI MEMORIAL COIN: Under date of April 30, 1936, the following letter was received from Hon. Nellie Tayloe Ross, Director of the Mint, submitting sketches for the Cincinnati Memorial coin:

April 30, 1936.

Dear Mr. Moore:

I am forwarding by Miss Constance Ortmayer models for the coin authorized by Congress to be issued to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Cincinnati, Ohio, as a center of music and its contribution to the art of music for the past fifty years.

The models have been executed by Miss Ortmayer, who is presenting them. The models are submitted for your criticism as to the artistic merits of each design.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) Nellie Tayloe Ross,
Director of the Mint.

The Secretary reported that Miss Ortmayer is a resident of Washington and so far as is known is not associated with the art school in Cincinnati. Also he said that he had heard that she did not do all the lettering on the model. The obverse of the model shows the portrait of Stephen Foster, which was quite well done, and on the reverse the Spirit of Music. The models were brought to the attention of Mr. Lawrie by mail for advice and a report was sent to the Director of the Mint, disapproving them. (Exhibit K) (The question of making new models is being considered by the Cincinnati Committee in view of the criticism made to showing the head of Stephen Foster.)

21. CLEAVELAND MEMORIAL COIN: The following letter was received from the Director of the Mint, submitting sketches for this coin:

May 1, 1936.

Dear Mr. Moore:

I have been requested to submit to your Commission the inclosed sketches of a proposed half dollar for the Cleveland Centennial Commission. The sketches were executed by Brenda Putnam.

The bill proposing the issue of a coin for the City of Cleveland has not yet been signed by the President. These sketches are being presented to you in anticipation of the signing of the bill for the reason that the Cleveland Centennial Commission is very anxious to make preliminary preparations. Mr. Thomas Melish, who states that he is the representative of the Cleveland Centennial Commission, has requested that these sketches be put before you today in order that they may be considered while your Commission is meeting.

This Bureau has been advised that the work of Brenda Putnam is sufficiently known to you to establish your confidence in her

ability to make a model which would be suitable for coinage purposes. Should your Commission see fit to pass upon these designs, it is understood that the model in plaster will eventually be submitted for approval as to the artistic merits of execution of the design and that the models will finally be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) Nellie Tayloe Ross,
Director of the Mint.

A report was sent to the Director of the Mint accordingly. (Exhibit L)

22. GREAT PLAZA LANDSCAPE PLAN: Mr. Simon and Mr. Geiffert submitted a new design for the Great Plaza in the Triangle. Mr. Simon said the longer this place is left as an automobile park, the more difficult it is going to be to change its character. Their office had figured $900,000 would be necessary to complete the project but the possibility of obtaining this sum is most remote if not absolutely non-existent, but if in any way an acceptable scheme could be evolved that would cost a reasonable amount, it might be possible to obtain the necessary funds. Mr. Simon said he believed $500,000 a reasonable sum and this design has been estimated at about that amount. Savings have been made by eliminating much of the balustrade and simplification of the seats, but most of the cut has been in the granite work. The planting itself was estimated at $90,000.

Mr. Borie had a criticism to make regarding the break in the line of trees adjacent to the central grass panel, in which the Commission concurred, as Mr. Clarke said it was obvious that the arrangement in the design made a weak link. It was also advised that the sidewalk at the east end of the plaza be changed from 40 feet to 20 feet in width.

Mr. Moore felt that if the grades could be fixed, the Straus Memorial (which the organization is very anxious to erect) would help to bring about

the completion of the rest of the plaza. Mr. Moore asked if there were sufficient funds to grade the plaza and let some things go until later. Mr. Clarke suggested that the plan be approved subject to such changes as may be necessary. Accordingly the Commission approved the plan and a report was sent to Mr. Simon. (Exhibit M; see also letter from the President, Exhibit M-1)

23. LANDSCAPE PLAN FOR THE TRIANGLE: Mr. Louis Simon, Supervising Architect, submitted a series of landscape plans for the Triangle. These plans were restudies of these heretofore made by the firm of Bennett, Parsons and Frost, of Chicago. They were made under the supervision of Mr. Geiffert, landscape architect, formerly of the firm of Vitale & Geiffert. Mr. Bucher, landscape architect of Mr. Simon's office, had charge of the plans. Mr. Clarke had previously inspected the plans and found them much better than the old landscape plans and approved them. He made the recommendation that pine trees be planted each side of the entrance of the Archives Building from Constitution Avenue. The plan for the Great Plaza was considered in connection with these plans. A report of approval was sent to Mr. Simon. (Exhibit N)

24. FREER GALLERY OF ART PURCHASES: During the afternoon the Commission inspected objects of art proposed for purchase by the Freer Gallery. These objects were shown to the Commission by Mr. John Lodge and were as follows:

4 Persian illuminated pages.

1 Persian miniature painting, 14th century.

1 Persian pen and ink box.

1 Chinese pottery cup, Sung dynasty, Kuan yao.

1. Chinese jade disk, Period of the Warring States.

1 Armenian Manuscript, 17th century.

The Commission inspected the items with much interest and approved them.

The Commission adjourned at 5:30 p. m., after an inspection trip to Union Square, Meridian Hill Park, the Jusserand Memorial site and the site for the Artemas Ward Statue. The Commission had as their guests at luncheon Mr. Simon and Mr. Frost.

C O P Y

May 4, 1936.

My dear Mrs. Rentschler:

I am pleased to inform you that at the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts held in Washington on May 1, 1936, I brought your letter to the attention of the members of the Commission. They expressed sincere appreciation of it.

I was requested by the members of the Commission to send to you the attached copy of a Minute adopted at the meeting in appreciation of the services rendered by your Father to the profession of architecture and as a member of the Commission of Fine Arts.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) H. P. Caemmerer,

Secretary.

Mrs. Mary Coolidge Rentschler,
Locust Valley, New York.

EXHIBIT A

C O P Y

May 14, 1936.

Dear Mr. Crunelle:

At long last we seem to be approaching the erection of the Artemas Ward Statue over which we have had so much worry during the past years. The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on May 1, approved the model for the pedestal with the stipulation that a dark granite be used, to be in tone with the bronze statue. Will you please send samples for final approval by the Commission?

The photographs of the completed model were received after the meeting of the Commission but have been approved and you are at liberty to go ahead on the basis of the photographs received. This approval, I take it, will enable you to receive a payment from Harvard University.

What we need now is a planting plan for the circle and we would be pleased to have your suggestions in connection therewith. Meanwhile we will take the matter up with the National Park Service. Also an inscription is needed, which, of course, will have to be approved by the Harvard authorities. Tentatively I am sending you an inscription prepared on the basis of the legislation together with the inscription you have had prepared as shown on the blue print of April 17, 1936.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very truly yours,
(Signed) Charles Moore,
Chairman.

Mr. Leonard Crunelle,
6016 Ingleside Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois.

EXHIBIT B

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 24, 1936

My dear Mr. Moore:

I have received your letter of April 20, 1936 concerning the release of impounded funds appropriated for the construction of the Arlington Memorial Bridge.

These funds were included with others which were impounded by me on March 21, 1933. As from time to time need has been shown to the satisfaction of the Bureau of the Budget, funds have been released to continue the work. I am advised that $52,000 was released under date of April 1, 1936 and there still remains $171,169.48 impounded. The Acting Director of the Bureau of the Budget has authority to continue to release additional funds as they are needed for the completion of this work.

Sincerely yours,

Franklin D. Roosevelt

Honorable Charles Moore, Chairman,
The Commission of Fine Arts,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT C

C O P Y

May 12, 1936.

Dear Mr. Demaray:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on May 1, 1936, approved the model designed by Mr. A. A. Weinman, sculptor, for the Great Entrance to the Arlington National Cemetery. Mr. Weinman has informed the Commission that the statue will include supports and that the statue complete including the fountain, bowl, will cost about $46,000. It is to be hoped that the amount needed to complete this monument will be made available at an early date.

I inclose a copy of a letter which President Roosevelt sent to me in reply to one I sent to him in regard to the completion of the Arlington Memorial Bridge projects. You will note that the President interposes no objection to procuring funds that have been appropriated by Congress for these projects and are now in the control of the Bureau of the Budget. A photograph of the model is inclosed.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very truly yours,
(Signed) Charles Moore,
Chairman.

Mr. A. E. Demaray,
Acting Director,
National Park Service,
Interior Department,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT C-1

C O P Y

May 2, 1936.

Dear Mr. Paris:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on May 1, considered the sketch made by Mr. J. H. Freedlander for the Jusserand Memorial to be located in Rock Creek Park.

The Commission realize the desirability of as prompt action as is consistent with the adaptability of the design to the character of its location. The seat is to be a happy incident in a rural setting, and should be inviting and gracious rather than monumental; that is, in keeping with Ambassador Jusserand's character.

The Commission approved the design as a bench that shall serve as an expression of honor to, and affection for, Mr. Jusserand on the part of his American friends. At the same time the Commission felt that if the shape of the bench could be less deep the change would be an advantage. If Mr. Freedlander approves, the bench might take an elliptical form. Also the Commission would be willing to see the wings eliminated, if the designer wishes so to do. This is a suggestion, not a requirement.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) Charles Moore,
Chairman.

Mr. Francklyn Paris,
522 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

The sketch is being returned to Mr. Freedlander. The Commission understand that the seat will be executed in Stony Creek Granite or something of similar color--decidedly not white granite.

EXHIBIT D

C O P Y

May 12, 1936.

Memorandum for the National Park Service:

Attached hereto is a revised draft of a bill proposed to be introduced in Congress for the Franklin Knight Lane Memorial. The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on May 1, 1936, considered this matter with Mr. Finnan, who thought it would be advisable to omit the location suggested in your draft. It has been the experience of the Commission that Congress prefers to leave the question of site of a memorial for determination by the Commission of Fine Arts. The Commission do not object to the erection of a memorial flagpole, which has been suggested as a Lane Memorial at Hains Point, but in view of the fact that the memorial is to be erected without expense to the United States, an expenditure of thousands of dollars may be involved for providing adequate foundations at this point. If this should prove to be a fact, the Lane Memorial Committee might object to placing the memorial there.

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

EXHIBIT E

A BILL

To authorize the erection of a memorial to the late Franklin Knight Lane on the public grounds of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Interior be, and he is hereby, authorized to grant permission for the erection of a memorial with appropriate landscape setting on public grounds of the United States in the City of Washington, other than those of the Capitol, the White House and the Library of Congress to Franklin Knight Lane, Secretary of the Interior from 1913 to 1920, author of "Makers of the Flag", in recognition of his outstanding public service: Provided, That the location, design and setting of said memorial shall be subject to the approval of the Commission of Fine Arts; And Provided Further, That the work shall be done under the direction of the National Park Service, and that the United States shall be put to no expense in the erection of said memorial; And Provided Further, That such permission shall not be granted unless and until the funds referred in Sec. 2 hereof shall have been made available for the erection of said memorial.

Sec. 2. The National Park Trust Fund Board is hereby authorized to accept and administer under the provisions of the Act of July 10, 1935 (49 Stat. 477), a fund, consisting of securities and cash of the value of approximately one hundred thousand dollars, the income from said fund to be disbursed to the widow of said Franklin Knight Lane during her lifetime, and the principal to be used, upon her death, for the erection of said memorial.

C O P Y

May 2, 1936.

Dear Mr. MacDonald:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on May 1, 1936, approved the designs submitted by you for the new laboratories and other buildings for the headquarters of the Bureau of Public Roads on lands adjacent to the Mount Vernon Highway. These designs had the particular attention of Mr. Gilmore D. Clarke, landscape architect member of the Commission, who was associated with you in the construction of the Mt. Vernon Highway.

The Commission highly commend you and your architect on the appropriate and altogether satisfactory character of the designs.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mr. Thomas H. MacDonald, Chief,
Bureau of Public Roads,
Agriculture Department,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT F

C O P Y

May 2, 1936.

Dear Mr. Simon:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on May 1, 1936, approved the revised designs which you submitted for the Apex Building.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Respectfully yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Hon. Louis A. Simon,
Supervising Architect,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT G

74TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 12472

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 27, 1936

Mr. LANHAM (by request) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds and ordered to be printed

A BILL

To amend the Act entitled "An Act authorizing the erection for the sole use of the Pan American Union of an office building on the square of land lying between Eighteenth Street, C Street, and Virginia Avenue northwest, in the city of Washington, District of Columbia", approved May 16, 1928 (45 Stat. 590), as amended, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act entitled "An Act authorizing the erection for the sole use of the Pan American Union of an office building on the square of land lying between Eighteenth Street, C Street, and Virginia Avenue northwest, in the city of Washington, District of Columbia", approved May 16, 1928

(45 Stat. 590), as amended by the Act approved December 26, 1929 (46 Stat. 55), is further amended so as to read as follows:

"SECTION 1. That there is hereby authorized and permitted to be erected an office building for the sole use of the Pan American Union on the western portion of Square S173, the right-of-way of Eighteenth Street between C Street Northwest and Virginia Avenue Northwest, and the eastern portion of the triangular piece of ground bounded by Virginia Avenue Northwest, C Street Northwest, and Eighteenth Street. The location of said building shall be subject to the approval of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the plans for said building shall be subject to the approval of the National Commission of Fine Arts.

"SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized and directed to close Eighteenth Street between C Street Northwest and Constitution Avenue Northwest and to open a street, the right-of-way of which shall be fifty-six feet, more or less, in width, to run from the intersection of Eighteenth Street and C Street Northwest in a southwesterly direction through the triangular piece of ground designated as Square 146, to Virginia Avenue Northwest, thence southward to Constitution Avenue. The said Secretary is also authorized to aid the Capital Transit Company in relocating its tracks on the new street herein provided for so as to connect those on

1 Eighteenth Street with those on Virginia Avenue North-
2 west.

3 "SEC. 3. The Secretary of the Interior is further author-
4 ized and directed to remove at the proper time the temporary
5 Government buildings now on the site described in section 1.

6 "SEC. 4. For the purpose of (a) carrying out the pro-
7 visions of section 2, (b) preparing plans and designs for a
8 Pan American Union office building to be located on the
9 aforesaid site, and (c) paying for the cost of excavations
10 heretofore made by the Pan American Union preparatory
11 to the construction of an office building on the site designated
12 in the act entitled "An Act authorizing the erection for the
13 sole use of the Pan American Union of an office building
14 on the square of land lying between Eighteenth Street, C
15 Street, and Virginia Avenue Northwest, in the city of Wash-
16 ington, District of Columbia", approved May 16, 1928, as
17 amended by the Act approved December 26, 1929 (46
18 Stat. 55), the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to use
19 not in excess of $70,000 of the moneys allocated to him
20 for the construction of a new Department of the Interior
21 Building, by order of the President under the authority of
22 the National Industrial Recovery Act of June 16, 1933.

23 "SEC. 5. The building which may be erected under the
24 authority of this Act shall be exempt from all taxation so
25 long as it is occupied and used for the purposes herein
26 authorized."

A BILL

To amend the Act entitled "An Act authorizing the erection for the sole use of the Pan American Union of an office building on the square of land lying between Eighteenth Street, C Street, and Virginia Avenue Northwest, in the city of Washington, District of Columbia", approved May 16, 1928 (45 Stat. 590), as amended, and for other purposes.

By Mr. Lanham

April 27, 1936

Referred to the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds and ordered to be printed

TREASURY RELIEF ART PROJECT
NEW DEPT. JUSTICE BLDG.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

REMENT DIVISION
WORKS BRANCH

QUOTE THE ABOVE SUB-
AND THESE LETTERS PW-SA-TRAP

April 30th, 1936

Mr. Charles Moore
The Commission of Fine Arts
New Navy Department Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Moore:

I am submitting by messenger a three inch scale sketch and model created by Mr. Louis Bouche for the curved space outside the Attorney General's office on the Fifth Floor of the Department of Justice Building, Washington, D. C.

This work was especially requested by the architect of the building, and it has the approval of the authorities of the building as well as of the Treasury Department Art Projects.

This work has been discussed with the Attorney General, and he has made the following suggestions:

(1) Elimination of the red, white, and blue color scheme and the drapes.

(2) Substitution of some more peaceful group for the left hand group portraying the "Arrest".

(3) Elimination of the two medallions underneath the wings of the eagle.

(4) Substitution of the Department of Justice eagle for the eagle now shown.

The general scheme and plan of this were, however, liked. I am attaching to this letter a memorandum of the subject matter for this mural, which has been worked out with the Department of Justice.

The comment and advice of the Commission on this mural scheme will be greatly appreciated.

Faithfully yours,

EXHIBIT I

Olin Dows

Olin Dows, Chief
Treasury Relief Art Project

PROPOSED MURAL BY LOUIS BOUCHE FOR THE APPROACH TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D. C.

uject matter for rounded wall and its two wings: On the right side are repre-
ted the more peaceful activities of the Department of Justice; the left half
icts, for the most part, curbing and dealing with serious crimes against law
r order.

the center wall over the door is represented the American Eagle over which
lats a ribbon swag. A suitable inscription may be placed on it. Under the
le's outstretched wings in ovals may be seen the two classical symbols of jus-
e, a stone bust of blind justice on the left and the scales on the right.

two large figuresgroups would be painted in full color. On the right, the
up represents a peaceful immigrant family arriving in our land of opportunity.
s group would suggest the part the Department of Justice plays in immigration
naturalization. To the left of the door, in keeping with the left wing, the
up represents the law enforcement agencies apprehending a criminal.

distant backgrounds of these two groups and the objects surrounding them
ld be treated in a very pale tone of gray so as not to conflict with the sculp-
esque simplicity of the two groups in full color.

may be noticed throughout the decoration that the blue draped swags and the red
ipes suggest our national colors and help to weave the pictorial motives into a
ified architectural whole. Between the red uprights may be seen the sword of
stice; its use is optional. The swords are not indicated on the architectural
iel.

e vignettes in the two wings, representing various activities of the Department
Justice, would be treated in a light brown monotone grisaille on a darker
ound than the center cream wall.

e subject matter of the vignettes was inspired by the offices, divisions, bureaus,
d functions of the Department of Justice as follows:

ft Wing - Violence
eading fxm left to right)
p Row
typical court house scene in a small American community.
imes on the high seas.
imes on Indian Reservations.
cond Row
coholic Beverage Violations
botage
ngsters - Racketeering.
e compositions dealing with the two last subjects would be arbitrarily separated
a "criminal identification record."
urth Row
board of Parole
. S. Supreme Court Building
parade of veterans.
e Capitol.

Third Row
Seaboard fortifications with a man on the left spying which would illustrate "Espionage"
A Prison Building
Kidnaping
Right Wing - Peaceful functions
Top Row
Radio Act.
Safety Appliance Act.
Aeronautics.
Second Row
Labor - Industry
Interstate Commerce
Third Row
National Banking Act
Postal Laws
Pure Foods Act
Meat Inspection Act.
Fourth Row
Indian lands and affairs
(Forest reserves, reclamation and irrigation might be included in this last vignette)

Overdoor facing Attorney General's Office shows a still life of law books, papers, the lamp of knowledge etc. -- ground color the same as wings.

Vertical panel to right of exit door shows a judge, and to left of doorway may be seen a lawyer.

PROPOSED MURALS BY HAROLD WESTON FOR THE ENTRANCE LOBBY OF THE PROCUREMENT DIVISION, FEDERAL WAREHOUSE, WASHINGTON

Scale of sketches: 1 inch = 1 foot.

Subject Matter: Activities of architecture, engineering, and supplies under Procurement Division.

The compositions on the two end walls are divided into sections because columns in lobby break direct view of complete end walls. Design is arranged so that any half or third can be seen as a unit.

SOUTH END WALL (10' x 21')-

Subject: Architecture under Procurement.

- Upper Portion -
(7' x 21')

Center, and as decorative border: Symbolic tools and materials used by architects.
Upper Side Sections: Represented as architectural renderings of buildings not yet completed.
Left: (Government Classical) New Mint, San Francisco, California.
Right: (Government Modern) Postal Station, Chicago, Illinois.

- Predellas -

(1) - Office Scenes - Organization
(2) - Draughting Room - Conception of building
(3) - Printing Specifications
(4) - Map showing buildings Procurement has undertaken in past three years. (Dots in four colors not indicated on sketch)
(5) - Accounting - Tabulating
(6) - Blueprinting
(7) - Filing

WEST WALL (Panels over elevators 6' x 8'3")

Subject: Modern construction under Procurement.
(1) - Surveying - Excavations. Naval Hospital, San Francisco
(2) - Foundations - Reinforced Concrete. Hospital, Seattle
(3) - Sub-structural steel with pile driving - New Department of Interior, Washington
(4) - Super-structural steel. Assay Building, New York City
(5) - Stone, tile, brick - Post Office-Court House, Middletown, New England.
(6) - Stucco and roofing. Quarantine Station, Miami, Florida.

NORTH END WALL (10' x 21') -

Subject: Equipment, embellishment, Branch of Supply.

- Upper Portion -
(7' x 21')

Decorative border of symbolic workers' tools.

Center: Pile of typical supplies handled by Procurement.
Left: Central Fuel Depot. Coal Yards.
Right: Unloading Supplies at Federal Warehouse.

- Predellas -

(1) - Tunnelling - Heat Supply for Federal Buildings
(Procurement constructed seven miles
in last three years.)
(2) - Boilers - Central Heating Plant, Washington.
(3) - Electric Generators for Elevators at Warehouse.
(4) - Letting bids
(Upon which depend purchase, contracts)
(5) - Embellishment - Sculptors
(6) - " - Plasterers
(7) - " - Painters

C O P Y

May 13, 1936.

Dear Madam:

The Commission of Fine Arts are returning without approval the designs for a fifty-cent piece to be struck "in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of Cincinnati, Ohio, as a center of music, and its contribution to the art of music for the past fifty years."

The Act reads that the coin shall be of "such design as shall be fixed by the Director of the Mint, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury." By Executive Order of July 28, 1921, designs of medals, insignia and coins are submitted to the Commission of Fine Arts for advice.

The design of the obverse of the coin is directly contrary to the expressed purpose of the Act. It shows a portrait of Stephen Collins Foster, who had no part whatever in the movement which made of Cincinnati a musical center. In fact, he died in New York City seventy-two years ago; whereas the movement which made Cincinnati a music center began in 1873, sixty-three years ago.

This Commission is at a loss to connect a fiftieth anniversary in 1936 with a movement that began in 1873. Nor do the members of this Commission connect the name of Stephen Foster with the "art" of music. He made a valuable contribution to the folk literature of American music in the very popular songs he wrote for Christie's minstrels; but this contribution was not made during his short stay as a bookkeeper in Cincinnati, but afterwards, while he was a resident of Pittsburgh or New York. He was an American troubadour; but to music as an art he made no contribution.

Cincinnati's leadership in the art of music began with the May Festival Association, organized by George Ward Nichols in 1873. Out of this grew the College of Music of Cincinnati, established by Colonel Nichols and Reuben R. Springer in 1879. The former was also at the head of the movement that founded the School of Design, to train artists and craftsmen in industry. Robert Shafer, in the Dictionary of American Biography, writes of George Ward Nichols-- "Cincinnati owes its importance as a musical center very largely to his audacity and diligence."

The Cincinnati Musical Festival in 1873 was organized and conducted by Theodore Thomas; and in 1878 Thomas became director of

the College of Music in Cincinnati. Making Cincinnati headquarters, Theodore Thomas became "a musical missionary by taking his orchestra through the country and cultivating a taste for the best in music". He taught American audiences to enjoy symphonies. Theodore Thomas was, artistically, the founder of Cincinnati as a musical center. His portrait should appear on any coin commemorative of Cincinnati "as a center of music and its contribution to the art of music for the past fifty years."

The reverse of the coin, showing a female figure with a lyre, is not a complete design. The figure is good; its relative size and simple outline are acceptable. The lettering, always of first importance in a coin, is only sketched and barely that.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully,
(Signed) Charles Moore,
Chairman.

Hon. Nellie Tayloe Ross,
Director of the Mint,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT K

C O P Y

May 2, 1936.

Dear Madam:

Your letter of May 1, inclosing sketches for a proposed half-dollar for the Cleaveland Centennial Commission, has been received.

The Bureau of the Mint has been correctly advised that the work of Brenda Putnam is sufficiently known to us to establish our confidence in her ability to make a model which would be suitable for coinage purposes. The Commission, therefore, will advise with Miss Putnam as her work progresses towards a model in plaster.

Respectfully yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Hon. Nellie Tayloe Ross,
Director of the Mint,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT L

C O P Y

May 12, 1936.

Dear Mr. Simon:

Again, at their meeting May 1, the Commission of Fine Arts considered the plan for the development of the Great Plaza adjacent to the Commerce, Labor and Post Office Department buildings.

This Commission consider the immediate development of this Plaza of the first importance. This space, planned as a landscape setting for the Departmental buildings named, is used as an open-air garage for the parking of private cars for profit of the lessor. Such use of Government park space is in the highest degree undignified. Moreover, the hesitancy in putting the Plaza in order has delayed for several years the erection therein of the fountain in honor of Oscar S. Straus, the first Secretary of Commerce. The design of this fountain insures an important, distinguished and beautiful work of art. Oak trees should be planted in the plaza.

The revised plans as now presented have been modified in such manner as materially to reduce the costs. As agreed with you, the design will be further modified by the addition of trees to plant out the walls of the entrance to the underground garage. As so revised the plans are approved.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Respectfully yours,
(Signed) Charles Moore,
Chairman.

Hon. Louis A. Simon,
Supervising Architect,
Treasury Department.

EXHIBIT M

C O P Y

THE WHITE HOUSE
Washington

May 12, 1936.

Mr. Charles Moore,
The Commission of Fine Arts,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Moore:

This will acknowledge your letter of April 20, calling to my attention certain public improvement projects in the District of Columbia which you feel should be brought to an early completion.

I am informed that the office of the Supervising Architect of the Procurement Division, Treasury Department, has prepared preliminary estimates for the completion of the Great Plaza in the triangle area. The total of these estimates is $500,000 of which $90,000 is for landscaping. I am suggesting to the Secretary of the Treasury that he authorize the Director of Procurement to submit these estimates through the proper channels.

I am also suggesting to him that the Supervising Architect of the Procurement Division give immediate attention to your excellent suggestion that trees be planted around the triangle on Pennsylvania Avenue lying between the Commerce Building and the Washington Hotel. The planting of trees at this area would in no way affect future plans. I believe every effort should be made to bring about early completion of the Pennsylvania Gift Fountain proposed for this site by your Commission, and provided for by the Act approved June 21, 1930, entitled "Joint Resolution to permit the Pennsylvania Gift Fountain Association to erect a fountain in the District of Columbia" (46 Stat. 797).

Because of their architectural and historical value, I am deeply interested in preserving the Bulfinch gatehouses and posts. Your recommendation that their orientation be changed so that they face on Constitution Avenue should receive every consideration from the National Park Service of the Department of the Interior, and I am sure that Service will submit an estimate for this work at an appropriate time.

Very sincerely yours,
(Signed) Franklin D. Roosevelt.

EXHIBIT M-1

C O P Y

May 12, 1936.

Dear Mr. Simon:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on May 1, considered the plans for revising the planting in connection with the Triangle Group of Public Buildings, which plans had been the subject of consultation between you and Mr. Gilmore D. Clarke, the landscape architect member of this Commission.

It is understood that oak trees will be used in the Great Court of the Triangle. The Commission suggests that an appropriate species of pine be planted to form a group in character with the sketches each side of the entrance of the Archives Building from Constitution Avenue.

The members of the Commission of Fine Arts were interested, first of all, by the very attractive presentation of the planting schemes in a series of exceptionally well designed and attractive sketches in black and white. The plans for the planting should at once produce effects consistent with the high architectural character of the buildings themselves. The discrepancy between the two is now painfully apparent.

The Commission approved the plans as presented.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very truly yours,
(Signed) Charles Moore,
Chairman.

Hon. Louis A. Simon,
Supervising Architect,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT N